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COMPRDENTEL

DOS review completed

GENERAL

- 1. Bevin opposes forcible imposition of Palestine trusteeship--US Ambassador Douglas in London reports that Foreign Minister Bevin, after discussing the US Palestine proposals with Prime Minister Attlee and his colleagues, expressed the following views: (a) an agreed Arab-Jewish truce is most unlikely; (b) trusteeship will call for substantial force; (c) the UK will not participate in the use of force to impose any regime unacceptable to the Jews and the Arabs. Douglas comments that Bevin is deeply concerned with the dangerous possibilities of the situation for both the UK and the US, and that Bevin's present attitude is not inspired by an unwillingness to cooperate.
- 2. Proposed western European military conversations -- US Ambassador Caffery has advised Secretary General Chauvel of the French Foreign Office that the five members of the western European union should complete a thorough evaluation of their own military capabilities before asking US views on military cooperation. According to Caffery, Chauvel replied that the five interested powers are in agreement now that this should be done. Chauvel added, however, that it is extremely important to the five powers to know what line is to be defended in case of "a Russian invasion," and declared that if it is not feasible to defend a line in Europe, "the sooner we know it the better because then we must make arrangements to move

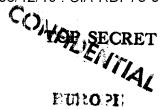
	our government to North Africa."
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3. USSR: Possible shift in Seviet political comment during the paint reports that a buil in Seviet political comment during the paint two weeks may hadicate an impending shift in Sovial actions designed to reasoure the west of the 'peaceful' intentions the USSR. Smith refers, in this connection, to reports from Paris of a new Kremika directive to the French Communist Party calling for a strategy of non-violence in western Sureque (US Ambassador Sichalardt in Prague reports that the Creck of slowak press has abruptly discontinued its strong enti-US propaganda campaign.) Shaith warms that the US sixuld not be halled into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should vigorously particulated into a false sense of security but should be a false of security but should be a false of security but s

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

4. PALESTINE: Increasing ral pressure for interval ion--Use Charge Memminger in Damascus reports that pressure from the Arab press and public for the active intervention of the Arab state armies in the Palestine fighting is growing strong a daily.

(CIA Comment: Jewish military successes, particularly the recent victory at Hatla, will hasten the direct intervention in Palestine of the Arab states. Vichout active aid from outside, the Jewish forces will be unable to defend their victors indefinitely against the Arab armise.)

5. IRAQ: UK fears Government's fall-According to US Ambas sador Douglas in London, the British Foreign Office periously doubts that the present Iraqi Government will last long enough to hold new elections. A Foreign Office spokesman informed Douglas that the Iraqi Government has virtually demanded financial assistance from the UK with the statement that it cannot meet even its 30 April civil and military payrolls.



TOP SECRET

The Foreign Office spokesman added, however, that a British loan is unlikely so long as the present "hopeless" Government remains in office. (The Department of State has measument instructed US Ambassador Wadsworth to indicate to the Iraqi Government, in response to its informal request, that it would be difficult for the US to consider assistance for Iraq so long as the Palestine question remains unsettled.)

(CIA Comment: CIA concurs in the view that the situation in Iraq is extremely serious and believes that there is a possibility that civil strife will break out following the probable fall of the Government.)

FAR EAST

6. SIAM: Difficulties for Phibul Government predicted -- US
Embassy Bangkok reports that while the Phibul Government
has received a vote of confidence (70 affirmative, 26 negative,
and at least 64 abstentions) the vote indicates that future
support in the Parliament is uncertain. The Embassy believes that the Government may be defeated on legislation
which must be presented to and passed by Parliament within
the next few weeks.

(CIA Comment: CIA concurs with the Embessy's estimate and believes that a legislative defeat may cause Phibul either to dissolve Parliament or to by-pass it and govern by edict through the Supreme State Council.)